10/519557
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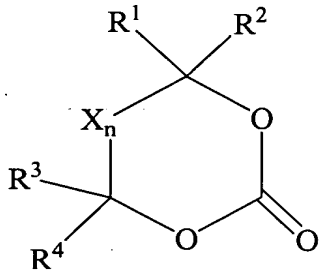
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for the catalytic hydroformylation of an olefinically unsaturated ~~compounds~~ compound having from 3 to 24 carbon atoms using an unmodified catalyst comprising at least one metal of groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table of the Elements, wherein the hydroformylation is carried out in the presence of a cyclic carbonic ester of the formula I



(I)

where

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4	are identical or different and are each H or a substituted or unsubstituted aliphatic, alicyclic, aromatic, aliphatic-alicyclic, aliphatic-aromatic or alicyclic-aromatic hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 27 carbon atoms,
n	is 0 - 5
X	is a divalent substituted or unsubstituted, aliphatic, alicyclic, aromatic, aliphatic-alicyclic or aliphatic-aromatic hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 27 carbon atoms,

with the proportion of the carbonic ester being at least 1% by weight of the reaction mixture.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and X are substituted by identical or different substituents selected from ~~among~~ the

group consisting of O, N, NH, N-alkyl, ~~and~~ N-dialkyl ~~radicals~~, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, -OH, -OR, -CN, -C(O)alkyl ~~or~~ and -C(O)O-alkyl.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein ~~the~~ said hydroformylation is carried out in the presence of from 5 to 50% by weight, based on the reaction mixture, of a solvent which is nonpolar compared to the cyclic carbonic ester I and is immiscible with the cyclic carbonic ester I.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the reaction product from the hydroformylation is extracted with a nonpolar solvent which is immiscible with ~~the~~ said cyclic carbonic ester [[I]].

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 3 ~~or 4~~, wherein substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbons having from 10 to 50 carbon atoms or olefins having from 3 to 24 carbon atoms are used as nonpolar solvent.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said hydroformylation is carried out in the presence of $HRh(CO)_3$ as catalyst.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein the reaction product mixture from the hydroformylation reaction is separated into a fraction comprising predominantly the catalyst and the cyclic carbonic ester and a fraction comprising predominantly the hydroformylation products.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a fraction comprising ~~the~~ said catalyst is recirculated to the hydroformylation reaction.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, wherein the cyclic carbonic ester ~~used~~ is ethylene carbonate, propylene carbonate, ~~or~~ butylene carbonate or a mixture thereof.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, wherein the unreacted olefinically unsaturated ~~compounds are~~ compound is separated off from the reactor output or from the hydroformylation products and are returned to the same hydroformylation reaction or passed to a second hydroformylation reaction.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, wherein the olefinically unsaturated ~~compounds used are compounds~~ compound is a compound which ~~have~~ has been obtained as unreacted olefinically unsaturated ~~compounds~~ compound from the reactor output of a first hydroformylation reaction.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the olefinically unsaturated ~~compounds used are compounds~~ compound is a compound which ~~have~~ has been obtained as unreacted olefinically unsaturated ~~compounds~~ compound from the reactor output of a first hydroformylation reaction carried out in the presence of a ligand-modified catalyst.

Claim 13 (New): The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbons having from 10 to 50 carbon atoms or olefins having from 3 to 24 carbon atoms are used as nonpolar solvent.